TESA Board Meeting, July 20, 2015, 1:25 p.m.

Attending: Byrns, Cavanagh, Coker, Crocker, Granovsky, Hurley, Jones, Klose, Mask, Mitchell-Linger, Warrick, White, Williams, Young

Mitchell-Linger called the meeting to order and asked members of the group to introduce themselves.

Mitchell-Linger appointed Byrns as parliamentarian.

Minutes – White reported that the minutes from the last board meeting had been approved via email and posted on the TESA website.

Correspondence – none

4-H Foundation – Joe Mask is the new TESA representative to the Foundation. Byrns pointed out that Mask will have to be formally accepted by the Foundation board and Byrns will submit information about Mask to them. Byrns reported that he did not have approved Foundation board meeting minutes to share with the TESA board at this meeting and will send them to Mask when he receives them.

Standing Committee Reports

Nominating – Young said that voting ended June 10. The officers for 2015-2016 are:

Diann Mitchell-Linger     Past President
DeDe Jones               President
Steven Klose             President Elect
Emmy Williams            Historian
Janet Hurley             Secretary
Dean McCorkle            Treasurer

Audit – Mitchell-Linger reported that Walker and Burton had conducted the audit. But, because they have some questions to ask the treasurer, they have asked that their report be tabled until the business meeting on Wednesday, July 22, 2015.

Scholarship – Coker said that the process went well and there were three good applicants. He said that the Scholarship Committee recommends to the board that Morgan Payne be the recipient of the scholarship. Approved by acclamation.

Retirees – Warrick said that there are 126 lifetime members, and since the last annual meeting, Carl Anderson is the only lifetime member who has passed away. There may be an additional retiree who is eligible for lifetime membership that Warrick will confirm, and that will bring the total up to 127.

Industry Liaison – Mitchell-Linger passed out a list of donors to this annual meeting and asked everyone to write thank you letters.
Financial Report – Klose distributed the treasurer’s report (attached). We have a balance of $33,235.57. He pointed out that for about a year the association has used the Texas Education Foundation account (TEEFI) to handle credit card payments for annual meeting registration. Most expenses are as expected and in line with the budget. The good attendance at the spring board meeting made it a little more expensive than usual. Klose reported that there are 48 paid members, 9 free first-year memberships, and 125-127 lifetime memberships. Jones said that she expects expenses for the annual meeting will be about $10,000. Smith has brought in more than that in sponsorships and that doesn’t include registration. She said the association will break even or maybe come out a little ahead. Klose added that in the professional development account, Rebecca Dudesing is still working on a survey and the money for her professional development grant has not been distributed yet. Klose said that this treasurer’s report will be submitted for audit.

2015 Annual Meeting – Jones covered the agenda and details about the tour on Tuesday morning and the events the next two nights.

Promotion Task Force – Granovsky reminded the group that Hurley would give an update on Wednesday morning. She said that the task force turned in their report at the spring board meeting, which concluded their work on the project. She recommended that TESA form a task force to look at professorial promotion. Jones will meet with Granovsky to identify people to ask to serve on that task force. Granovsky recognized the hard work of the task force members. Young recommended that Jones write a letter to Travis Miller offering assistance from the association to help with the professorial rank/promotion documentation/guidelines/website issues, etc.

Collaboration Task Force – Mitchell-Linger said that Travis Miller is working with Information Technology to come up with a program to produce the “green sheets” personnel updates again. Jones said that Miller had emailed her after the spring board meeting to ask what information would be useful to TESA and she got input from several board members.

Website - Williams said she has been adding information to the website as people send it to her and she welcomes any ideas for the website. She reported that Cushing Library is waiting on freezer space to freeze the TESA historical records. (Everything has to be frozen to kill insects before materials are stored in their archives.) Several board members suggested having Greg Bailey from Cushing Library speak at one of the TESA meetings.

Unfinished Business

2016 Annual Meeting – Jones said that everything is pretty well finalized. Klose is working with La Toretta resort on payments. Forty rooms have been blocked. Klose asked the group if scheduling off-site free time would be necessary since there is so much available to do there (water park, mini-golf, lake). Hurley suggested talking to the Montgomery County agents about touring some local AgriLife Extension/Research
projects. The group also discussed the problem of conflicting annual meeting dates for the various Extension professional associations. Granovsky suggested that efforts to coordinate dates for future meetings be discussed at the PEAC meeting at the December professional associations meeting in Brownwood.

Chapter Directors – Cavanagh suggested that regional program directors be a part of the chapter at their location rather than forming a separate chapter. Dozier will be addressing this topic on Wednesday and Jones said this might be a good topic for the business meeting on Wednesday.

Professional Development – Crocker reported that Paul Pope applied for the TESA professional development scholarship to pay for registration for a training program about evaluation. The amount could range from $1,500 for early registration to $1,800 for late registration. Hurley confirmed that as part of receiving the grant, he would be expected to make a presentation at the 2016 TESA annual meeting about how he used what he learned. Approved by consensus.

Additional Items - Cavanagh asked if TESA would have a social at the AgriLife Conference in January. Jones will send a letter to Maryland Mitchell to get the social on the conference schedule.

Mitchell-Linger asked if TESA would continue to sponsor breaks at V. G. Young Institute conferences. Klose will contact Peter McGill, the new director of V. G. Young Institute, about this.

Warrick asked who the award winners for 2015 are. White reported the following:

- CEA for Distinguished Program Achievement ANR: District 1 Ag and Natural Resources team for their efforts on Farm Bill education
- CEA for Distinguished Program Achievement FCS: Meilana Charles, McClennon Co.
- CEA for Distinguished Program Achievement 4-H: Arvitta Scott, Brazos Co and Joan Gray, Gray Co.
- Outstanding Friend of Extension Specialists: David Gibson, Texas Corn Producers Board, for help in Farm Bill education
- Outstanding Administrative Support: Rhonda Fisher, District 1

New Business

Warrick thanked Klose for the detailed financial and membership records and help he has given to Warrick to keep the membership list up to date. He also expressed appreciation that we announce a year ahead of time where the next annual meeting will be. This is very helpful so that lifetime members can schedule it on their calendars.

Jones said that Jeff Ripley wants the professional association leaders to meet with administration more often. There will probably be a Lync meeting in September/October, February, and June.
The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.